



NEIGHBORHOOD DESIGN CENTER

A monthly e-newsletter for volunteer opportunities, news and events

July 2007

Community Art = Community Design

Art is more than just visual aesthetics – it has the power to harness creativity, convey messages, engage people of all ages, and even transform communities. For years the Neighborhood Design Center has been working with community members and artists to reclaim vacant lots, improve parks and playgrounds, renovate schools, and help teach youth. The following are three recent projects in Baltimore that utilize art as a tool for community design:

Show Way

Lockerman-Bundy Elementary School students recently completed their second mural at the school through NDC's **Rebuilding thru Art Program (RAP)**. During the past school year, artist **Jay Wolf Schlossberg-Cohen** led weekly after-school art workshops. The theme of the mural came from the book *Show Way*, by Jacqueline Woodson. The book's main story line of the "show way", or quilt with secret meanings, illuminated themes such as slavery, pathways to a better future, and the relationships of cultural and family heritage to students' lives. The mural is located in an area that is planned to be a performance space.



Lockerman-Bundy students, NDC's Office Manager Susan Gordon-Kunz and NDC Volunteer Emily CD

In addition to creating and painting a mural, students also took part in a ceramics class led by artist **Emily CD**. After learning basics of working with clay, they cut, layered, textured shapes, glazed and fired them. The resulting colorful tiles will be affixed at the school entrance.



Ceramic tiles before firing

NDC's Office Manager, **Susan Gordon-Kunz** assisted Jay and the children every week, along with three Towson University undergraduate interns: **Bilal Khokhar** whose combined major is Sociology and Anthropology, with a minor in Economics, and **Jennifer Green** and **Kimberly McEwen**, both majoring in Sociology

ART ON THE TRAIL VIDEO

NDC Program Manager, **Irene Poulsen**, participated in planning this year's Gwynn's Falls *Art on the Trail* environmental art exhibit, which was headed up by **Ryan Patterson** of Parks and People and the Gwynn's Falls Trail Council. On opening day (June 2), she videotaped the art installations. Two additional volunteers, **Kristine Dunkerton** (Director of the Community Law Center) and **Elsa Langford** (Towson University Professor), edited the raw footage and Ms. Langford composed original music (in addition, Ms Langford has two sound pieces in the exhibit). This short, fun video called *A Place in Time* can be accessed at:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=UZG2WG4GG5A>

The art show is FREE and works will remain up until September 2. For directions to see the works and spend some time in this unique urban wild greenway at trailhead 2:

<http://www.mapquest.com/maps/map.adp?cat=Leakin%20Park%20Winans%20Meadow&ormtype=address&addtohistory=&address=%5b4600%2d4641%5d%20Franklinton%20Rd&city=Baltimore&state=MD&zipcode=21229&country=US&geodiff=1>

If you'd like to listen to the artists talk about their work as you walk the trail, download the podcast <http://phobos.apple.com/WebObjects/MZStore.woa/wa/viewPodcast?id=258036097>

From the parking area, you should see the first two installations. Then, continue toward and over the bridge to see the rest. Programs and maps are available on site.

NEW MURAL FOR PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE

Volunteer **Richard Daniels**, from the MICA Social Design Class taught by Bernard Canniffe, has completed a mural at Pennsylvania and Presstman. His volunteer work with NDC for the Newborn Community of Faith Church began in Fall of 2006. Richard designed a mural and memorial garden and oversaw the painting and installation. Both will be dedicated on Saturday, July 21 at 11am at 588 Presstman Street.



COME HEAR WHAT'S NEW AT BALTIMORE HOUSING

The Neighborhood Design Center, in partnership with **Baltimore Housing** and **The ABCD Network - City Committee**, is presenting a series of "Community Conversations" on Neighborhood Investment and Revitalization. Join us and representatives of Baltimore Housing to learn more about their new division of Neighborhood Investment and the Neighborhood Project Coordinators that will be working directly with community-based groups.

"Community Conversations" is FREE and open to the public (see attached flier).

Tuesday, July 17, 6pm

Herring Run Branch Library, 3801 Erdman Avenue 21213

Thursday, July 19, 6pm

Govans Branch Library, 5714 Bellona Avenue 21212

This is a great opportunity to learn about some exciting changes at Housing and Community Development, talk with agency representatives about the Neighborhood Project Coordinators, and network with community leaders from across the City.

For more information contact Mark Cameron at mcameron@ndc-md.org or 410-233-9686 x102.

“Community Conversations” are occasional talks offered by the Neighborhood Design Center meant to increase information available to community leaders and better inform citizens on neighborhood development issues.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

The Neighborhood Design Center is always in need of volunteers for a variety of projects! For more information contact **Jan Townshend** (Prince George’s County area) jtownshend@ndc-md.org, 301-779-6010 or **Irene Poulsen** (Baltimore area) ipoulsen@ndc-md.org, (410) 233-9686 x102, or go to NDC’s web site (under construction) www.ndc-md.org/ndc/volopp.html to print a volunteer form, which you can fill out and fax to (410) 233-9687.

PG County Office

NDC is in need of at least **five Graphic Designers** to design façade and window signs for three businesses in the Gateway Arts District. This is part of a façade improvement initiative that is providing plans and drawings for new signage, awnings, new windows, and exterior painting for fifteen area businesses. This is your chance to design a sign and have it installed within a few months. Great for the portfolio! Please contact, Jan Townshend at jtownshend@ndc-md.org or call (301) 779-6010.

NDC WELCOMES NEW VOLUNTEERS

Brooke Ingram, Landscape Architect –EDSA * **Michael Jordan**, Operation Officer-DHS/TSA * **Deepali Moodra**, Graphic Designer

PROJECT UPDATE

The **McElderry Park Community Resource Center** held its grand opening on June 8th. An NDC volunteer team from **Gant Hart Brunnett** developed the concept plans for this architectural renovation project. The client, McElderry Park Community Association, was able to secure funding and donations to make this project a reality within only one and a half years!

THANKS FOR SUPPORTING NDC!

NDC would like to thank the following for their generous membership donations:

Amazing Port Street * Artsfusion * Deborah Hines * Idaclaire & Thomas Kerwin * Johns Hopkins Bayview Medical Center * Johns Hopkins Health Systems * Leland E. Edgecombe * Mary Pat Andrea/Hometown Girl * Michelle & Vernon Hustead * Nicholas & Brigitte Fessenden * Peter Shapiro * Ralph Bennett * Seema D. Iyer * Slater Associates, Inc. * Town of North Brentwood * Zach Holl

As part of NDC’s funding strategy, individual and corporate donations are critical to the success of NDC. Because of the faith and generosity of our volunteers and contributors, the Neighborhood Design Center remains a small and lean organization able to have a strong community impact. We hope you will join us in building stronger communities by making a contribution today!

Please keep in mind, your membership is essential, **TAX DEDUCTIBLE**, and enables NDC's assistance to reach local neighborhoods in need.

For those of you that wish to help NDC make that difference today, please mail your contribution to Neighborhood Design Center, 1401 Hollins Street Baltimore, MD 21223 or contact Office Manager **Susan Gordon-Kunz** at skunz@ndc-md.org and she will send you a donation card.

Remember – you can also charge your donation! NDC accepts Visa, MasterCard and American Express!

WORKPLACE GIVING

Don't forget another way to help NDC is to donate through your workplace – it is easy and a relatively painless way to contribute. On the back of your pledge card, next to other health & human service agencies, please enter Neighborhood Design Center and the account number listed below or NDC's main office address: 1401 Hollins Street, Baltimore, MD 21223. We are a participating agency with:

- 🌐 Maryland Charity Campaign: #1965
- 🌐 Combined Federal Campaign of the National Capital Area: #7354
- 🌐 United Way of Central Maryland: #7354.

Contact your Human Resource or Payroll department today! **Does your employer make matching contributions?** If so, let them know you support NDC when you contribute.